

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method, comprising:
  - 2 determining at least one presence rule, wherein the presence rule comprises a
  - 3 condition and a state;
  - 4 determining whether the condition is met; and
  - 5 when the condition is met, updating presence information for a mobile device with
  - 6 the state.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the condition is based on time.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the condition is based on a location of the mobile  
2 device.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a Global Positioning  
2 System.
- 1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a cell-based radio  
2 network.
- 1 6. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a hotspot with which  
2 the mobile device communicates.
- 1 7. A server, comprising:
  - 2 presence information; and
  - 3 a controller to determine a presence rule for a mobile device, wherein the presence
  - 4 rule comprises a condition and a corresponding state, and to update the presence
  - 5 information with the corresponding state when the condition is met.
- 1 8. The server of claim 7, wherein the condition is based on a calendar.

1 9. The server of claim 7, wherein the controller is to determine the location of the mobile  
2 device.

1 10. The server of claim 9, wherein the condition is based on the location.

1 11. The server of claim 7, wherein the server further uses the presence information in an  
2 instant-messaging system.

1 12. A mobile device, comprising:  
2 a controller to determine a location of the mobile device, to update presence  
3 information based on the location, and to send the presence information to a server.

1 13. The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the controller further is to update the presence  
2 information based on a condition and a corresponding state, wherein the condition  
3 comprises the location.

1 14. The mobile device of claim 13, wherein the controller is further to update the presence  
2 information with the corresponding state when the condition is met.

1 15. The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the presence information comprises  
2 reachability information.

1 16. The mobile device of claim 15, wherein the reachability information comprises an  
2 identification of an instant-messaging system to which the mobile device is connected.

1 17. The mobile device of claim 15, wherein the reachability information comprises an  
2 identification of a cellular network to which the mobile device is connected.

1 18. A signal-bearing medium comprising instructions, wherein the instructions when read  
2 and executed by a processor comprise:

3 determining a presence rule for a mobile device, wherein the presence rule  
4 comprises a condition and a corresponding state;  
5 determining when the condition is met; and  
6 sending the corresponding state to a presence server when the condition is met.

1 19. The signal-bearing medium of claim 18, wherein determining the presence rule further  
2 comprises querying a user of the mobile device for the presence rule.

1 20. The signal-bearing medium of claim 18, wherein determining the presence rule further  
2 comprises loading the presence rule from a server.

1 21. The signal-bearing medium of claim 20, wherein the corresponding state is selected  
2 from a group consisting of available, not available, busy, and do not disturb.

1 22. An apparatus, comprising:  
2 a presence server, comprising:  
3 presence information,  
4 a location database comprising locations of a plurality of mobile devices,  
5 and  
6 a controller to find the locations of the plurality of mobile devices, to  
7 determine a plurality of presence rules for the plurality of mobile devices, wherein  
8 each of the presence rules comprises respective conditions and respective  
9 corresponding states, and to update the presence information with the respective  
10 corresponding states when the respective conditions are met.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the controller is further to obtain the locations  
2 from the mobile devices.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the controller is further to obtain the locations  
2 from hotspot-access points to which the mobile devices are connected.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the location database further comprises a mapping  
2 of coordinates to locations of the plurality of mobile devices.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the presence information further comprises  
2 reachability information for the mobile device.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising the plurality of mobile devices.

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